

THE REHEARSAL Of Observator, &c.

1. A Provocation to the Whiggs, to Answer for Themselves.
2. An Answer to a Quotation out of Algernon Sidney.
3. A Witch-Craft in Words.
4. The Heathen Notion of Government.

From Saturday April the 7th, to Saturday April the 14th 1705.

(1.) *Observator.* **T**Hou Vapour'd'st over me, at a strange Rate last time. And spak'st with the utmost Contempt of our Great Lock, and Sidney, and all our Oracles. Thou makest them speak as Great Nonsense as I my self. And said'st, That all their Schemes of Government End just where Mine did, to make Me my self, John Tutchin, or any Greater Scoundrel (if such can be found in the Nation) Ultimate Judge over King, Lords, and Commons, or any other sort of Government that Can be set up upon the Foot of the People. Now, art not Thou a Saucy fellow, to talk at this Rate? Art not Asham'd of thy self, to set Thy self up against Men of such Reputation for Sense and Learning; And to Treat them in such an Ungentlemanly Manner, without any Regard to their Quality or Learning?

Country-m. Have I Convert'd so long with Thee, and woud'st have me Learn nothing of Thee? But I am not Come up to thy NASTY Billingsgate, and Casting Personal Reflections, that Concern not the Subject in Debate, not Scrupling withall the most horrid Lyes and Forgeries to Blacken with, instead of Argument. These are the Talents of Thee and thy Scandalous Club. Which I never Intend to Learn or Imitate.

But when I have first Answer'd Gravely and Seriously. And no Reply is made but in thy Sink and Filth, which dare not touch the Argument, only Throws Dirt about thee: And I see some People still so Besotted, as to Like that way; and still to have up the Names of LOCK, SIDNEY, &c. as Men that have Prov'd the Point, and Cannot be Answer'd! Then I thought it Necessary, after having fully Answer'd them, to Expose their SCHEMS with the Utmost Contempt, to Provoke their Admirers, if Possible, to look into the Argument, and Consider on which Side the Proof do's lie. And to give them Opportunity to Correct the Insolence of an Opposer, who speaks with all this Assurance. I thought this woud be a Temptation to them, to give some Sober Answer. And I doubt not we shou'd have had it, long before this, if it had been Possible to be Given! But it is Impossible. And all their Wits do find it so. Therefore they Dare not Meddle. Only set a few Currs to Bark, and then Laugh at the Noise! And I will go on with the same Assurance, till all who will Consider

are Convinc'd, that there is nothing but Rattle in all these Popular Schemes; besides the utmost Confusion and Destruction of Mankind, without End or Remedy; and an Absolute Contradiction to all Government of what Kind or Denomination soever. And as I told The last time, if YOU Whiggs Suffer US to go on at this Insulting and Triumphant Rate, without other Answer than calling Rogue and Rascal, it is Impossible (unless the Nation be given up to a JUDICIAL Blindness) but WE must Recover the People from YOU, while WE thus Write OVER You.

Obs. This is Huff and Ding indeed! you make very Pignies of all the Polyphemus's of the People! And if WE say nothing to Thee, they will think, in good Earnest, that thou art Apparently and Clearly in the Right; and that there is no Answer to be given on the Whigg side.

Country-m. I have put on all this Assurance (which is not my wont) on Purpose for that very End. To try if I can bring any Answer out of Thee, or any whom thou can'st Quote on thy side. Otherwise, to make YOU all as Contemptible as Really YOU are.

(2.) *Obs.* I have Quoted Algernon Sidney, in mine of 31 last March. Vol. 3. N. 100. Than Whom (I say) No One understood better the Constitution of the ENGLISH Government. And he says, in his Discourses Concerning Government. Chap. 3. Sect. 38. p. 423, 424. That Men Chosen to Serve in Parliament— are Sent thither By Prescription, not from a Power deriv'd from Kings, but from those that Chuse them.

Country-m. If Algernon says so, then I say, That he neither Understood the Nature of Government, nor of the ENGLISH Constitution. He talks of Prescription. Had that Prescription no Beginning? There he might have found the Constitution. Who was it gave Charters to those Corporations that Choose Parliament-Men? Was it the King, or the People? Did all the People of England, every Individual Single Person (which Mr. Lock makes Necessary, in his Two Treatises of Government. l. 2. c. 8. Of the Beginning of Political Societies. p. 316. &c.) Meet together, and Determine by Vote, what Town or Corporation should Choose Parliament-Men? Which shou'd Choose Two, Which but One, and Which None? Did the People Ordain, that a very little Poor Corporation shou'd have as many

many *Representatives*, as a whole *County*? And was this thought a Fair and Equal *Representation* of the *People*?

This is as *Ridiculous*, as it is contrary to *Fact*. The *King* is the only *Fountain* of Power in the *Kingdom*. Neither *Lords*, nor *Commons*, or any *Other* have any *Authority*, but what they *Derive Wholly and Solely* from the *Crown*. And the *Crown* holds of None but *God*. This is the *Law* of *England*? As it is *Expresly* *Declar'd*, 16. *Rich.* 2. c. 5. And many other *Statutes*. *Kings* were before *Parliaments*, for *Parliaments* were call'd by *Kings*. Otherwise let *Algernoon* name that *Parliament* which made the first *King*. And tell us who call'd it? And by whose *Authority* it Met? This is a *Choking* *Question*. And reduces *Matter* to *Fact*. And is no otherwise *Answerable*, but by *Fact*. And none has had the *Courage* to *Answer* it, but my *Bayes* of an *Observer*, who *Shoots* his *Bolt* at every thing, and is as *Hardy* as a *Drunken* *Man* in the *Dark*. And he *Answers* it by *Another* as *Perilous* a *Question*, that is, *Who was BEFORE the FIRST*? For which I leave *Thee* to the *Correction* given *Thee* in my first *Paper* of last *August* the 5th. call'd only *The Observer*, to try if *Thou* could'st know thy own *Face* in a less *Flattering* *Glass* than what *Thou* Had'st made for thy self.

(3.) *Obs.* Do'st think, that all the *Mighty Structure* *WE* have been so many *Years* a *Raising*, with such vast *Expence* of *Wit* and *Learning*; with which *WE* have *De Populated* *KINGDOMS* (for the *Good* of the *People*!) and *Tumbled* down *Kings* from their *Thrones*, can be All *Blown* away at once, like the *Down* of a *Thistle*, by one *Puff* of thy *Breath*.

Country-m. *INCHANTMENTS* have *Mighty Effects*, while they last. Yet are *Easily Dissolv'd* by a few *Words* right *Plac'd*. And there is a *Witch-Craft* in *Words*. We have seen it. *Four P's* carry'd on the whole *Revolution* of *Forty-One*, these were, *People*, *Parliaments*, *Property* and *Popery*. By virtue of the word *People*, and their *ORIGINAL* *Power*, they overturn'd the *Government*, and the *People* Met one *Another* in the *Field*, and *Manur'd* their *Land* with the *Blood* and *Carcasses* of the *People*.

Whatever came to them in the *Name* of the *Parliament*, was their own *Act* and *Deed*, and went down without *Examining*! And the most *Arbitrary* and *Illegal* *TYRANNY* upon their *Lives* and *Estates*, if done by the *Parliament*, was their *Liberty* and *Property*! Whereas if the *King* did but *Look* at them, or *Touch'd* a *Hair* of their *Heads*, this they *Cry'd* Out upon as *Persecution*, *Massacres* &c.— *INTENDED*!

And by *Tacking* the word *Papery* to *Espiscopacy*, *Liturgy*, the *Creed*, and the *Lord's Prayer*, they were Altogether *Banish'd* out of the *Land*.

The *Inchantment* of these *Words* is not yet over with us. And we have added three *Other*, which have no less *Power*, viz. *Moderation*, *Seasonable* and *Ballancing*. The two *First* put a full *Stop* to any *Good*, how *Necessary* and *Beneficial* soever, that is *Propos'd* for the *Security* of *Church* or *State*. And the *Last*, *Justifies* any *Evil* can be done, even to *Burn* my *Neighbours House*, if it be better than *Mine*, or to *Cut* his *Throat*, if I *Fancy* he may

Cut mine, tho' he do's me no *Injury* in the *World*.

Obs. May not I stand upon my *Guard*, if I think my *Neighbour* designs any *Attempt* upon me?

Country-m. Yes. But not to *Fall* upon him, while he *Lives Peaceably* and *Quietly* with you.

Obs. I Love to give the *First BLOW*.

Country-m. Then you must take the *Guilt* with it, and all the *Blood* that follows. It lies upon the *Aggressor*. And this we must suppose, if there is a *God* in *Heaven*, or any *Justice*, *Faith*, or *Honour* left upon the *Earth*. And, at this *Rate*, no *Peace* can be *Preserv'd* in the *World*. For till the *Levelling* *Age* comes, there will be always a *Pretence* for *Ballancing*.

(4.) *Obs.* But to Return to our *Subject*. Thy *Assurance* reaches not only all *OUR* late *Modern Heroes*, who have *Wrote* upon *Liberty* and the *Original Power* of the *People*; but thou set'st thy self *Above* all the *Ancient* both *Greek* and *Roman Philosophers*, from whom *WE* learnt that *Notion*, and mak'st *Fools* of them All, as well as of *US*.

Country-m. No. I make not *Fools* of them, nor set my self *Above* them, they were *Men* of *Great Wit* and *Sagacity*. Yet I know from the *Holy Scriptures* (which they had not) what all their *Philosophy* could never reach. They knew not how the *World* or *Mankind* began. How then could they know how *Government* Began? Therefore they were put to their *Guesses*. And some of them thought of the way of *Compact* and *Agreement* among *Men*, tho' they knew not *When* or *How*. But they saw, That this could be no *Basis* or *Settlement* of *Government*, especially so as to oblige *Conscience*; which is the great *Security* of *Government*. For what *Man* is he, who can by his own *NATURAL* *Authority*, bind the *Conscience* of *Another*? That would be far more than the *Power* of *Life*, *Liberty* or *Property*. Therefore they saw the *Necessity* of a *DIVINE* *Original* of *Government*. To Supply which, they *Fabled* their *Kings* to be *Begot* by some *God* or *other*, and so to be of an *Higher Race* than the *Rest* of *Mankind*. And they had their *Apotheoses* of their *Kings*, at their *Death*, or turning them into *Gods*, to *Command* the *Reverence* and *Obedience* of their *Subjects*.

Then their *Legislators* gave it out, that they *Receiv'd* their *Laws* from some of the *Gods*. As *Numa Pompilius* said he had his from the *Goddeß Ageria*. *Draco* and *Solon* Pretended they had the *Athenian* *Laws* from *Minerva*. *Lycurgus* those of the *Lacedemonians*, from *Apollo*. *Minos* of *Crete*, from *Jupiter*. *Trismegistus* from *Mercury*, for the *Egyptians*. *Zoroaster* for the *Persians*, from *Horomasis*. *Xamelsis* from *Vesta* for the *Scythians*, and so forth,

Thus they *Grop'd* in the *Dark* after what we have *Clearly* *Reveal'd* in *H. Scripture*, the *DIVINE* *Original* of *Government*. And *YOU*, (Good *Christians*!) lead us back to the *Heathens*, to find it out. And set up their *Schemes* of *Compact*, *Rejecting* the *Institution* of *God*, *Recorded* in *Genesis*, as of the first *Dominion* *Found*ed in *Adam*, so of the *Division* of *Nations* under *Noah*.